

HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION 1150  
By Pleasant

A RESOLUTION to honor the memory of William Clyde Pleasant,  
Sr., of Shelby County.

WHEREAS, the members of this General Assembly are honored to recognize those Tennesseans whose lives stand as a testament to the finest qualities of humanity; and

WHEREAS, William Clyde Pleasant, Sr., was an exemplary citizen and consummate family man who worked assiduously to improve the quality of life for his family, his church, and his community in numerous capacities; and

WHEREAS, born September 15, 1913, in Cordova, Tennessee, to Herman Morris Pleasant and Mattie Francis Humphreys Pleasant, Clyde Pleasant was the older of two children born to this union; and

WHEREAS, when Clyde Pleasant was about three years old, his family moved to the Bartlett area to work a farm on Kate Bond Road, where they remained for seven years; Clyde Pleasant attended Ellendale School from age seven until age ten; and

WHEREAS, in 1923, Herman and Mattie Pleasant moved their family to their farm on Memphis-Arlington Road in the Brunswick community; Clyde Pleasant attended Brunswick School and, later, Bolton Agricultural High School, all the while helping his father farm and maintain approximately 100 acres; and

WHEREAS, Clyde Pleasant was an avid reader as a boy, and particularly enjoyed studying history; he also loved working by his father's side and helping his mother with her many chores around the farm; and

WHEREAS, after finishing high school in 1932, Clyde Pleasant continued to help his family keep a working farm, a difficult task as the country sank into the midst of the Great Depression. He and his family survived by trusting in God and feeding themselves and their neighbors from the land; it was during this time of struggle that Clyde Pleasant became a member of Brunswick Baptist Church; and

WHEREAS, while baling hay in 1937, Clyde Pleasant fell in love at the first sight of beautiful, tall, and buxom Murrell Elizabeth Lane; after two years of dating, Clyde Pleasant took a position with the Firestone Tire and Rubber Company in Memphis, and they were married on December 22, 1939, in Marion, Arkansas; and

WHEREAS, the happy couple made their first home down the road from Clyde's parents, and had their first child, Dianne Murrell, in 1941; a year later, Clyde and Murrell had saved enough money to buy a farm of their own on Germantown Road; and

WHEREAS, in 1945, Clyde and Murrell had their second child, William Clyde, Jr., and their second daughter, Brenda Louise, was born in 1948; a fourth child, Thomas Herman, was born in 1956, and eleven years later, Jean Renee made her appearance; and

WHEREAS, Clyde and Murrell Pleasant had five children over a span of twenty-six years, and enjoyed a busy life together of raising children, working on the farm, sending children to school and church, and spending time with family; the oldest four children were educated in the Shelby County School System, attending Brunswick and Bolton Schools, while Thomas Herman graduated from Rosemark Academy and Renee graduated from Evangelical Christian High School; and

WHEREAS, Clyde Pleasant, Sr., was an active and devout member of the Brunswick Baptist Church, which he served faithfully for many years as a deacon and a Sunday School teacher; and

WHEREAS, as a public-spirited citizen, Clyde Pleasant, Sr., served as a Shriner and as a 32<sup>nd</sup> degree Mason with the Bartlett Masonic Lodge; he was politically active as a dedicated member of the Republican party, and served as Officer of Election at Brunswick for twenty years; and

WHEREAS, dedicating his life to his family, Clyde Pleasant, Sr., always endeavored to remain true to family values of the highest order; he was a devoted husband, father, and son, and he believed that education was key to a successful life; and

WHEREAS, the family of Clyde Pleasant, Sr., has happily grown through the years to include eight grandsons: Chuck, III; Clyde, III; John; Kenny; Fred, Jr.; Robert; William; and Thomas; two granddaughters, Kathy and Josie; and nine great-grandchildren; they now carry on

his legacy of love for family, and recognize that the world is surely a better place because he lived; and

WHEREAS, Clyde Pleasant, Sr., left behind an indelible legacy of integrity and probity in public life, compassion and loyalty in private life, and diligence and dedication in all his chosen endeavors; and

WHEREAS, it is fitting that this General Assembly should pause to remember the bountiful life of this exceptional public servant and human being; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE ONE HUNDRED FOURTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE, THE SENATE CONCURRING, that we honor the memory of William Clyde Pleasant, Sr., reflecting fondly upon his impeccable character and his stalwart commitment to living the examined life with courage and conviction.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that an appropriate copy of this resolution be prepared for presentation with this final clause omitted from such copy.